



# **FIRE MOBILIZATION NEWS FROM THE STATE OF WASHINGTON**

State Emergency Operations Center  
Camp Murray, Washington



## **For immediate release**

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## **Update: Fire Management Assistance Grant Approved for Fischer Fire in Chelan County**

CAMP MURRAY – FEMA approved a request for the Fire Management Assistance Grant yesterday. FEMA will reimburse the State 75% of the costs associated with the fire. Federal fire management assistance is made available by FEMA to manage, mitigate, and control fires that threaten to cause a major disaster. The assistance covers eligible state firefighting costs, including expenses for field camps, equipment use, repair and replacement; tools, materials, and supplies; and mobilization and demobilization activities.

Fire lines held overnight and firefighters continue to aggressively attack the fire by ground and air. A total of 48 firefighters and 15 engines/tenders are involved, patrolling the canyons for hot spots and are being supported by aircraft dropping fire retardant. This brings the total number of fire personnel at the fire to 550. Temperatures are expected to be in the 90's today with winds 5-10 mph.

The fire has burned approximately 850 acres and is threatening 32 residences. Level 3 evacuations are in effect for 20 homes in Williams Canyon, and Level 2 evacuations are affecting 12 residences in Derby Canyon. Firefighters are estimating containment at 25%. The Red Cross has set up a shelter at the Icicle River Middle School in Leavenworth. The school is located at 10195 Titus Road.

The Washington State Fire Mobilization Act was declared on August 11, 2004, at 12:01 a.m. by Chief Lowell Porter, and implemented by the Fire Protection Bureau of the Washington State Patrol at the request of the local fire service. Support from the state's Emergency Management Division at the State Emergency Operations Center at Camp Murray.

Creating a defensible space around your home is a must for residents living in a potential wild land fire area. The following are the 10 steps to defensible space:

- Thin tree and brush cover.
- Dispose of slash and debris left from thinning.
- Remove dead limbs, leaves and other litter.
- Stack firewood away from home.
- Maintain irrigated green belt around the home.
- Mow dry grasses and weeds.
- Prune branches to 10 feet above the ground.
- Trim branches.
- Clean roof and gutters.
- Reduce density of surrounding forest.

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